

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 9635

To require rental companies to provide consumer protections in renting motor vehicles to consumers, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 20, 2022

Ms. PORTER introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To require rental companies to provide consumer protections in renting motor vehicles to consumers, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Rental Car Consumer
5 Protection Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. CONSUMER PROTECTION REQUIREMENTS IN RENT-**
7 **ING MOTOR VEHICLES.**

8 (a) RESERVATIONS.—If a rental company allows a
9 consumer to make a reservation for a covered rental vehi-

1 cle, such rental company shall make available to such con-
2 sumer the vehicle reserved—

3 (1) within $\frac{1}{2}$ hour of the reserved time; and

4 (2) at the reserved location.

5 (b) DECEPTIVE ADVERTISING.—A rental company
6 may not advertise or represent that a consumer may make
7 a reservation for a covered rental vehicle unless such rent-
8 al company maintains the procedures required by sub-
9 section (c).

10 (c) RECORDS.—

11 (1) IN GENERAL.—A rental company that al-
12 lows consumers to make reservations for covered
13 rental vehicles shall maintain procedures reasonably
14 calculated to fulfill such reservations.

15 (2) PROCEDURES.—The procedures required by
16 paragraph (1) shall include maintaining a record of
17 each such reservation and of the scheduled return
18 time of each such vehicle. Such records shall be pre-
19 served for not fewer than 6 months.

20 (d) NOTICE.—A rental company that rents covered
21 rental vehicles to consumers shall conspicuously display on
22 the business premises of such rental company a notice in-
23 forming consumers of the rights of consumers under this
24 section. The Commission shall include in the regulations

1 promulgated under subsection (e) requirements for the
2 form and content of such notice.

3 (e) RULEMAKING.—Not later than 1 year after the
4 date of the enactment of this Act, the Commission shall
5 promulgate regulations under section 553 of title 5,
6 United States Code, to implement this section.

7 (f) ENFORCEMENT.—

8 (1) UNFAIR OR DECEPTIVE ACTS OR PRAC-
9 TICES.—A violation of this section or a regulation
10 promulgated under this section shall be treated as a
11 violation of a regulation under section 18(a)(1)(B)
12 of the Federal Trade Commission Act (15 U.S.C.
13 57a(a)(1)(B)) regarding unfair or deceptive acts or
14 practices.

15 (2) POWERS OF THE COMMISSION.—The Com-
16 mission shall enforce this section and the regulations
17 promulgated under this section in the same manner,
18 by the same means, and with the same jurisdiction,
19 powers, and duties as through all applicable terms
20 and provisions of the Federal Trade Commission Act
21 (15 U.S.C. 41 et seq.) were incorporated into and
22 made a part of this section. Any person who violates
23 this section or a regulation promulgated under this
24 section shall be subject to the penalties entitled to

1 the privileges and immunities provided in the Fed-
2 eral Trade Commission Act.

3 (g) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

4 (1) COMMISSION.—The term “Commission”
5 means the Federal Trade Commission.

6 (2) COVERED RENTAL VEHICLE.—The term
7 “covered rental vehicle” has the meaning given such
8 term in section 30102(a) of title 49, United States
9 Code.

10 (3) RENTAL COMPANY.—The term “rental com-
11 pany” has the meaning given such term in section
12 30102(a) of title 49, United States Code.

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